

Serial No.: 09/936,098  
Docket No.: VAS-5395  
Amendment dated February 2, 2004  
Responsive to Office Action of December 2, 2003

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

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**Listing of claims:**

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Claims 1-6 (Canceled)

- 10            7.        (New) A directable medical guidewire, comprising:  
                 an elongated flexible guidewire body having a main portion on its proximal end  
                 and a distal end portion contiguous with a distal end of the main portion, the distal end  
                 portion being defined by two curved sections, a first section having a first curvature and a  
                 second section located distally with respect to the first section and having a second  
                 curvature different to that of the first section.
- 15            8.        (New) The guidewire of claim 7, wherein the guidewire body is fabricated from a  
                 metal alloy.
- 20            9.        (New) The guidewire of claim 8, wherein the metal alloy is Nitinol.
10.       (New) The guidewire of claim 8, wherein the metal alloy guidewire body is  
                 formed as a wire with an outer surface coated with a friction reducing material.
- 25            11.       (New) The guidewire of claim 10, wherein the friction reducing material is a  
                 silicone based lubricant.

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12. (New) The guidewire of claim 10, wherein the friction reducing material comprises PET.

5 13. (New) The guidewire of claim 10, wherein the friction reducing material comprises PTFE.

14. (New) The guidewire of claim 8, wherein the guidewire body comprises a Nitinol core with a hydrophilic coating.

10 15. (New) The guidewire of claim 7, wherein the first and second sections of the distal end portion are separated by an intermediate section.

16. (New) The guidewire of claim 15, wherein the intermediate section has a third curvature different to that of the first and second sections.

*A*<sup>15</sup> 17. (New) The guidewire of claim 16, wherein the first, second, and intermediate sections have curvatures selected from the group consisting of:  
a notional circle, and  
an ellipse.

20 18. (New) The guidewire of claim 15, wherein the intermediate section is straight.

25 19. (New) The guidewire of claim 18, wherein the curvature of the first section is such that the straight intermediate portion makes an angle of between 10-135° with respect to the main portion.

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20. (New) The guidewire of claim 19, wherein the angle of the straight intermediate portion with respect to the main portion is between 20-45°.

5 21. (New) The guidewire of claim 20, wherein the angle of the straight intermediate portion with respect to the main portion is 30°.

22. (New) The guidewire of claim 19, wherein the curvature of the second section is such that a notional straight line extending from the distal end of the second section makes an angle of between 10-135° with respect to the straight intermediate portion.

10 23. (New) The guidewire of claim 19, wherein the curvature of the second section is such that a notional straight line extending from the distal end of the second section makes an angle of between 30-60° with respect to the straight intermediate portion.

15 24. (New) The guidewire of claim 19, wherein the curvature of the second section is such that a notional straight line extending from the distal end of the second section makes an angle of 45° with respect to the straight intermediate portion.

20 25. (New) The guidewire of claim 15, wherein the intermediate section has a length of between 1-6 cm.

26. (New) The guidewire of claim 25, wherein the intermediate section has a length of between 3-4 cm.

25 27. (New) The guidewire of claim 7, wherein the distal end portion includes a point of inflection between the first and second section such that the first and second sections have opposite curvatures.

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28. (New) The guidewire of claim 27, wherein the first and second sections have curvatures selected from the group consisting of:

a notional circle, and

an ellipse.

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